

S 848

Consider Teachers Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Education

Introduced: Mar 18, 2021

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 117-49.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 117-49. (Oct 13, 2021)

Law: 117-49 (Enacted Oct 13, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/848>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]

Party: Republican • **State:** IN • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Mar 18, 2021
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Mar 23, 2021
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 23, 2021
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Apr 27, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Apr 27, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Education

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 2048	Identical bill	Mar 18, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

Consider Teachers Act of 2021

This bill revises the service obligation verification process for the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) grant program. The TEACH program awards grants to postsecondary students who commit to teaching for four years in high-need subjects in low-income schools. In addition, the bill establishes certain program flexibilities with respect to the service obligations of teachers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Specifically, the bill provides a process for the Department of Education (ED) to reconsider and reverse the conversion of a TEACH grant to a loan. Under current program terms, TEACH grants are converted into loan obligations if service requirements are not met.

In addition, the bill directs ED to notify TEACH grant recipients of the requirements for submitting employment certifications. ED must also provide an alternative to certification.

ED must maintain and annually update a list of qualifying schools and high-need fields.

The bill also provides certain program flexibilities with respect to the service obligations of teachers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, the bill (1) extends the service obligation window for TEACH grants, and (2) requires ED to consider teaching service that is interrupted as a result of a qualifying emergency as full-time service for purposes of Federal Perkins Loans.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 13, 2021:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 13, 2021:** Became Public Law No: 117-49.
- **Oct 4, 2021:** Presented to President.
- **Sep 28, 2021:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H5496)
- **Sep 28, 2021:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 406 - 16 (Roll no. 302).(text: CR 7/26/2021 H3851-3852)
- **Sep 28, 2021:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 406 - 16 (Roll no. 302). (text: CR 7/26/2021 H3851-3852)
- **Sep 28, 2021:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 26, 2021:** Mr. Scott (VA) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Jul 26, 2021:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H3851-3854)
- **Jul 26, 2021:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 848.
- **Jul 26, 2021:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Apr 28, 2021:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Apr 28, 2021:** Received in the House.
- **Apr 28, 2021:** Held at the desk.
- **Apr 27, 2021:** Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions discharged by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S2246-2247)
- **Apr 27, 2021:** Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions discharged by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S2246-2247)
- **Apr 27, 2021:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(text: CR S2246-2247)
- **Apr 27, 2021:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (text: CR S2246-2247)
- **Mar 18, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 18, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.